

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re the Application of

Hiroshi HATTORI

Group Art Unit: 2624

Application No.: 09/726,454

Examiner: S. Brinich

Filed: December 1, 2000

Docket No.: 107850

For: DITHER PATTERN FOR IMAGE FORMING DEVICE

APPLICANT'S SEPARATE RECORD OF PERSONAL INTERVIEW

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Further to the personal interview conducted on December 16, 2004, Applicant herein provides a separate record of the personal interview. Applicant also appreciates the courtesies extended by Examiner Brinich to Applicant's representative during the personal interview.

Claims 21-24 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §101. As agreed during the personal interview, the amendments to claims 21-24 overcome the rejection to claims 21-24.

Claims 1, 2, 6, 9, 11, 12, 16 and 19 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) over Fujii et al. (Fujii), U.S. Patent No. 5,778,158, and claims 10 and 20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over Fujii in view of Applicant Admitted Related Art (AARA).

As agreed during the personal interview, neither Fujii nor AARA disclose or suggest a method of forming an image with the steps of forming a dither matrix that has a plurality of predetermined patterns, each of the plurality of predetermined patterns having a plurality of tiled elements, with each tiled element having a threshold value, and offsetting each predetermined pattern when forming the dither matrix such that a first predetermined pattern

is offset from a second predetermined pattern, as recited in claim 1 and as similarly recited in claim 11.

In view of the foregoing and the Amendment filed December 15, 2004, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition of allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 1-24 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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JAO:SMS/sxb

Date: December 21, 2004

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